November 1, 2007

Dear Members of the General Assembly:

The enclosed information fulfills the statutory directive that the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) report annually to the members of the Illinois General Assembly on the status of the Illinois River Edge Redevelopment Program.

The purpose of the River Edge Redevelopment Program is to revive and redevelop environmentally challenged properties adjacent to rivers in Illinois.

The River Edge Redevelopment Zone Act authorizes DCEO to designate zones in three cities – Aurora, East St. Louis and Rockford.

Although it is too early to fully evaluate the impact of this new program, we believe that the River Edge Redevelopment Program will become one of the state's most successful economic development tools.

I trust that you will find this 2007 River Edge Redevelopment Zone Report informative and useful.

Sincerely

Jack Lavin Director

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